

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 06328 080940Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /081 W
-----128728 081113Z /11

R 080743Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6209
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 6328

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, ET
SUBJ: URBAN TERRORISM CONTINUING UNABATED

REF: ADDIS ABABA 6270 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: STEP-UP IN NUMBER OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS
REPORTED REFTEL, MAINTAINING STEADY PACE. HOWEVER, THERE
HAVE NOT BEEN ANY THREATS TO FOREIGNERS FOR PAST MONTH,
DESPITE INCREASE OF KILLINGS AMONG ETHIOPIANS. END SUMMARY.

1. EVENING NOV 4 BEKELE HAILE, FORMER VICE-MAYOR OF
ADDIS ABABA AND ASMARA, WHO WAS ALSO VICE-MINISTER IN
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR UNDER EMPEROR, ASSASSINATED BY UN-
KNOWN PERSONS. ETHIOPIAN MEDIA HAVE NOT REPORTED DEATH YET
AND MAY NOT BECAUSE OF BEKELE'S GOOD STANDING WITH FORMER
REGIME. UNREPORTED ASSASSINATIONS ALSO OCCURRED EVENINGS
NOV 3 AND 6 AND SCATTERED GUNFIRE STILL HEARD IN VARIOUS
LOCATIONS OF ADDIS ABABA MOST EVENINGS.

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2. PMAC MEMBER LT. GEBAYEHU WHO KILLED NOV 2 (REFTEL)
REPORTEDLY VERY CLOSE TO CHAIRMAN MENGISTU AND HIS DEATH
COULD PROVE SERIOUS LOSS. OTHER VICTIM REFTEL, GUTTA
SERNESSA, ALLEGEDLY HAD BEEN CHOSEN BY DIRG FROM AMONG
3 MAYORAL CANDIDATES TO BE MAYOR OF ADDIS ABABA AND WAS
CLOSE TO ME'I SONE. THERE IS SPECULATION HE WAS KILLED FOR
BOTH REASONS.

3. URBAN TERRORISM IS APPROACHING HIGH LEVELS OF PAST MARCH, AND IS BEGINNING TO HAVE APPEARANCE OF REPRISAL AND COUNTER-REPRISALS. MOST VISIBLE VICTIMS HAVE BEEN KEBELE DEFENSE SQUAD MEMBERS AND LOWER RANKING BUREAUCRATS. DEATHS OF ME'I SONE AND DIRG MEMBERS AS WELL AS EPRP SYMPATHIZERS, SEDED (REVOLUTIONARY FLAME) MEMBERS, AND SOME GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AND CALLS FOR UNRESTRICTED SEARCH CAMPAIGNS BY MASS ORGANIZATIONS, LEND CREDENCE TO THEORY VENGEANCE BEING EXECUTED BY MYRIAD OF UNDERGROUND GROUPS UPON EACH OTHER. STILL, ADDIS MAINTAINS VENEER OF CALM, WITHOUT ANY EXCESS SECURITY CAUTIONS VISIBLE AND ONLY OCCASIONAL SEARCHES IN CAREFULLY SELECTED AREAS. TWO STUDENTS WERE FATALLY SHOT BY SECURITY POLICE AFTERNOON NOV 4, HOWEVER, AFTER REFUSING TO RESPOND TO REQUEST FOR IDENTIFY DOCUMENTS.
MATHERON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, TERRORISTS, REPRISALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770412-0025
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771186/aaaacvnr.tel
Line Count: 80
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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